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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/623,091

07/17/2003

Junya Akasaka

21334-1241

2863

29450

7590

11/29/2004

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EXAMINER

GILMAN, ALEXANDER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 11/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/623,091	AKASAKA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alexander D Gilman	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 3, 6 and 8 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2, 4, 5, 7, 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Billman.

With regard to claim 2, Billman et al (US 5,443,394) disclose a card connector assembly comprising:
a card receiving slot; and

extraction prevention mechanism (20) for preventing extraction of a card inserted in the card receiving slot; the extraction prevention mechanism having a frictional extraction member (26) provided within the card receiving slot, held so as to be movable in a direction essentially perpendicular to the main surface of the card (6a) inserted therein; a cam mechanism (50) for urging the frictional retention member toward the main surface of the card; and an operating member (50a) for driving the cam mechanism, wherein extraction of the card is prevented by operating the operating member to press the frictional retention member against the main surface of the card (col. 4, lines 1-14).

Also, Billman et al disclose (Fig. 5) a main body (10); and a cam protrusion (32) provided on a bottom wall of the main body.

With regard to claims 4, 5, Billman et al disclose that the frictional retention member (26) is formed from rubber.

With regard to claims 4, 5, Billman et al disclose that the operating member (50) comprises a slider (52) operably connected to the cam mechanism.

With regard to claim 9, Billman et al disclose a main body (10) and at least two cam protrusions provided on a bottom wall of the main body, a first one of the cam protrusions (the protrusion having slot 36) being configured to retain the cam mechanism without urging the frictional retention member into contact with

Art Unit: 2833

the main surface of the card, and a second one of the cam protrusions (the protrusion with top surface 32) being configured to urge the frictional retention member into contact with the main surface of the card.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3,6,8, are allowed.

No prior art has been found to anticipate or render obvious the presently claimed subject matter.

Specifically, none of the prior art of record discloses the combination of the limitations presented including the cam mechanism having a first plate on which the frictional retention member is mounted, provided above the bottom wall; and a second plate provided underneath the first plate, slidably movable by the operating member to a position corresponding to the cam protrusion; wherein the first plate having the frictional retention member mounted thereon is caused to be urged toward the card by the second plate riding up on the cam protrusion by operation of the operating member.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 09/17/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. With regard to claim 1, Applicants argue that the cam of the present invention is a sliding cam while Billman (the reference) discloses a rotating cam.

However, claim 1, simply claim "a cam protrusion provided on a bottom wall of the main body" without mentioning which type of cam "the cam protrusion" is.

Also, Applicants argue that the latch projection 26 of Billman et al. prevent extraction of the card by engagement with an aperture in the card (Col. 5, lines 40-46). Thus, Billman et al. fail to disclose or suggest a frictional retention member.

However, the attachment of the element 26 to the card is provided by friction between the surface of the card's aperture with r.n. 26 without any additional fixing member.

Hence the rejection deems to be proper.

Art Unit: 2833

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander D Gilman whose telephone number is 571 272-2004. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571 272-2800 ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

11/19/2004


ALEXANDER GILMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER